



The Presby Press

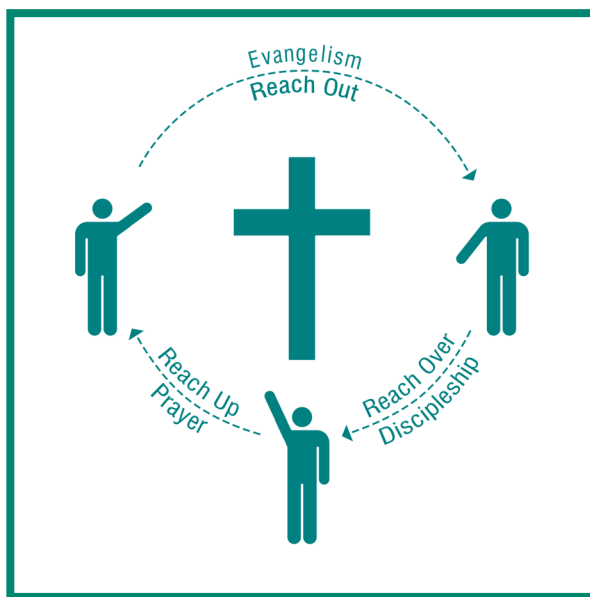
July 2025

A Publication of First Presbyterian Church, ARP, Sebring, Florida

Pastor's News and Notes

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31

FPCS Renewal Theme

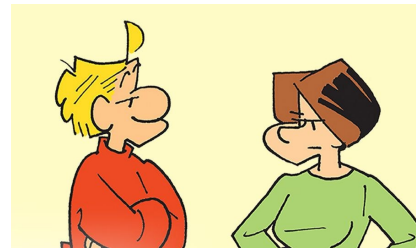


25 in 2025

**Reach Out, Reach Over and Reach Up
through
Evangelism and Discipleship and Prayer**

How far can a bear run into the woods?

How far can a bear run into the woods? Growing up, my whole family loved to get our newspaper. My dad especially loved the sports section and my mom loved to clip the coupons. As most kids, I loved the comics. One of my all-time favorite comics is Arlo and Janis by Jimmy Johnson. Recently Jimmy scripted the event of June 30th. He pictured Arlo breaking out the champagne. Janis curious of course said: "Ok, I will bite, why the champagne"? Arlo then replied: "Tonight is Old Year's Eve", upon which Janis asked



what that was. Arlo explained that tomorrow (July the 1st) we would cross the half way point of the year and that we could no longer call

2025 the New Year. This prompted the response of the title of this section by Janis. Do you know the answer? Well, the answer obviously is half way, because after that the bear will run out of the woods. We have reached the half way point of 2025 and I want to give you an update of praises for the first half of 2025 and prayers to consider for the second half of 2025. Proverbs 4:25 reminds us to "ponder the path of your feet; then in all your ways will be sure".

Praise

As we ponder the path we have traveled this year, we find many things that reinforce that we are on the right path. So let us take a moment and praise God for blessing us. To begin with, we are seeing several new faces in our church family. This year alone we had an increase of about 10 new folks regularly joining us in worship. Some are seasonal and some are permanent residents. We thank God for them and are glad they found a church home at FPCS. We also gained 2 new members this year and are looking to add more as the year proceeds.

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Pastor's News and Notes *continued from p. 1*

Outside of weekly worship participants, we have 2 or 3 guests who attend our Wednesday Small Group Bible study. This small group is pressure free and might be a great first step for inviting new folks to begin participating in church activities. Our outreach team has reached out into the community in a variety of ways such as attending expos, car shows, visiting businesses and attending prayer meetings. We continue to look for ways to connect with our community, either in person or on web media platforms. The outreach team invites you to join us. You have great ideas for how we can connect, so join us and share them. If you would like to join our outreach team, we normally meet on the second Thursday of the month at 1pm. Our next meeting in July 10 th .

Prayer



As we look at the path before us, we have several things to pray for. We will begin soon an officer training class. The purpose is to prepare future leaders of our church. Please pray that God will raise up men and women to lead us in the next step of the organization of our church. Prayerfully consider joining the officer training class yourself. We also have several outreach events in the works. The next event will be July the 19th . We will be participating in the Christmas in July Vendor Fair sponsored by the Sebring Chamber of Commerce. We need workers who are willing to enter into the harvest field to make connections with our community and invite them into fellowship with the church. Please keep these events in your prayers. God is calling our church to be more intentional in reaching out into our community with the good news of Jesus.



Sermon Series and Catechisms

Sermon		Larger Catechism
July 6		
Communion	John 9:1-41	83-85
July 13	John 10:1-21	86-88
July 20		
Fellowship Meal		
	John 10:22-42	89-91
July 27	John 11:1-27	92-94



Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Jude 24-25

Pastor Karl



Online Church Directory

This is not new, but I wanted to make sure that everyone knows that our church has a pictorial directory and that it's online or on a phone app. Here's how to access it.



To access the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and enter your email address as listed in the directory. Click on **"Send Secure Sign-In Link."** Then check your email and click on the **"Log in to Instant Church Directory"** button found in your email.

A free mobile app is also available in the **Apple® App Store** and the **Google Play™ Store**. Just search for **"Instant Church Directory"** to download.

Important: Your email address must be listed in the directory before you can log in.

If you need help getting in, come by the church office or Janine would be happy to help you after worship or at the luncheon on the 20th. Once you have created an account, you can edit your content, so feel free to use a different photo.



We will have a fellowship luncheon on July 20 after worship. We'll have pizza, salad, and some kind of wonderful dessert. If you want anchovies, you'll have to bring your own.

Mercy Ministries



Scripture tells us that one of the responsibilities of the family of God is to take care of one another. At FPCS, we do that through our Mercy Ministries fund. We don't want to see our people doing without something essential that we can help provide. Maybe it's an unexpected car or household repair or a prescription that eats into the food budget when you pick it up. Don't choose between food and medication. We're here to help. The Deacons have tried to make using the fund as anonymous as possible. You can talk to Bob Harderwijk and he will see that your need is met without a paper trail.

The only thing we discuss at the Deacons meeting is how many requests we have had and whether we need to ask the congregation to replenish the fund. Specific names are never mentioned.

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00	3	4  Pray and Celebrate 7:00	5
6 Sunday School 9:30 Worship with communion 11:00 	7	8	9 Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00	10 Outreach Committee 1:00	11	12
13 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00	14	15	16 Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00	17 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8:30	18	19 Christmas in July Vendor Fair 10:00-4:00
20 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00 Fellowship Lunch 	21	22	23 Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00	24	25	26
27 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 11:00	28	29 Business Outreach 11:00	30 Discovering Deuteronomy 4:00			



Birthdays

- 1 Cheryl Cooke
- 4 Jane Farrer
- 4 Roger Warrick
- 10 JoAnn Harderwijk
- 29 John Arnett
- 30 Val Klossner

Anniversaries

- 21 Cooke
- 21 Cal & Mary Lomelino
- 24 Jack & Sandy Breed



Birthdays

- 14 Sandy Breed
- 16 Jim Graves
- 19 Julia Guerra
- 22 Cheryl Green
- 24 Debbie Donahue
- 25 Dennis Green
- 29 Kathy Shisler

Anniversaries

- 10 Frank & Christie Busch
- 22 Rev. Karl & Nancy Davis
- 27 Jimmy & Julie Seay

Note: We do this for people who are organized and like to plan ahead. Next month we will publish August dates again along with September.

Church Staff and Officers



The Session

Jack Breed, Jimmy Seay,
Roger Warrick

The Diaconate

Dennis Green, Robert Harderwijk, Janine Hart,
Pat Villere

Trustees

Barney Hart, Calvin Lomelino, Patricia Villere



Staff and Congregational Officers

Karl Davis – Pastor
Janine Hart – Church Administrator
Dan Parsons – Sexton
Barney Hart – Congregation Chairman
Pat Villere – Treasurer
Robert Harderwijk – Assistant Treasurer



The Presby Press is always looking for submissions, either on a one-time or ongoing basis. If you have a content idea or would like to provide content, please talk to Janine Hart or send submissions directly to the church email account.

First Presbyterian Church

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FPCSering319@gmail.com
fpcs.church
Like us on Facebook**



The Mission of our Newsletter is ...

- to inform
- to enrich
- to recognize service
- to build fellowship



Schools out for Summer

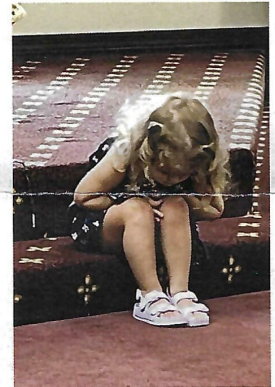
June 2025

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH AND MISSION

NEWSLETTER

YOUTH HIGHLIGHT

Local Girl Scout Group 225 and their families spent their Saturday with us earning their community service badges. It was a blessing to us having all the extra hands on deck helping us serve



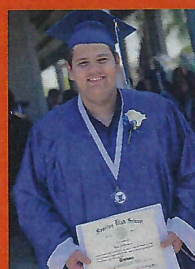
A CHILD-LIKE FAITH IN ACTION



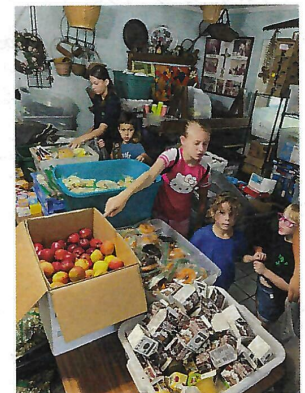
TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAYS OF THE LORD AND WHEN THEY ARE GROWN THEY WONT DEPART FROM HIM

School is officially out for summer but, doesn't mean learning is over. During the summer months the majority of our volunteers are youth. My grandparents always believed the next generation needed to always be involved and I'm so blessed to watch our youth showing up with happy hearts to serve. I was just thinking how it seemed like yesterday I spent my summers washing dishes and passing out food and now flash forward my children are at the very same sink washing dishes! The biggest lesson they all leave with is gratitude.

Our Senior Volunteers



Congratulations Ashley & Ethan



**TOTAL
MEALS
4,181**

**TOTAL
HOUSING
54**

**TOTAL
FOOD BASKETS
102**

**TOTAL
OUTREACH
5 FAMILIES**

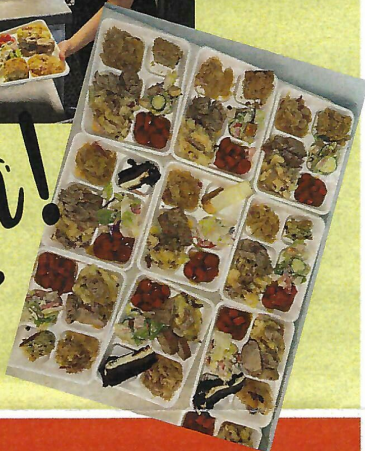


**WE CAN USE
BACKPACKS
NEW OR USED**

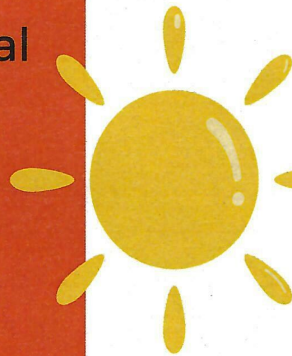
**WE PRIDE OURSELVES
IN OUR MEALS**



yum!



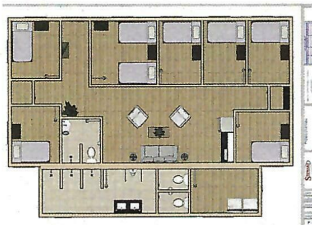
Mission Needs:
Sandwich ziplocks
Styrofoam sectional
plates
Quart ziplocks
Aluminum foil
Plastic knives
Plastic spoons



HAPPY *Father's Day*

This month is a special month where we all recognize the incredible fathers in our life. I know I was extremely blessed to have had both an exceptional father and grandfather in my life. They both shaped and molded my life in so many ways. I'm honored to be carrying out the vision of my grandfather and even though in my experience I was blessed I know not so many others were. In all our years we have had many who were fatherless or fathers who had no relationship with their children. I can rejoice with the stories of those after their time shared with us they put those relationships into actions and with others we filled those voids with God who is the Father of them all. He is the ultimate Father who will never ever leave us nor forsake us at any time of our lives. A father plays such a critical role in a child's life. Happy Fathers Day to all our readers. May God bless you greatly in your life with wisdom , knowledge , strength, gentleness and grace.

Karl's Place



**UPDATE: WE ARE STILL IN
PLANNING MODE. WE HAVE MET
WITH OUR CONTRACTOR AND SUB-
CONTRACTORS - ADDING 7 MORE
ROOMS FOR TRANSITIONAL
HOUSING- WE CAN USE YOUR
SUPPORT AND PRAYERS**



**Quick ways
to Donate
online**

**From the desk of
Kathleen Beatty**



**Same Kitchen
Same Purpose**



On Thursday, May 1, Pastor Karl delivered the benediction at the National Day of Prayer luncheon sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Greater Sebring. We received this from the club president, Jim Polatty.



May 18, 2025

TO: Reverend Karl Davis,
Presbyterian Church
319 Poinsettia Ave, Sebring, FL 33870

SUBJECT: National Day of Prayer Luncheon

Dear Rev Davis,

Kiwanis of Greater Sebring would like to thank you for your participation in the National Day of Prayer this year. Because of your **invocation, prayer leadership** and gold sponsorship over one hundred and fifty people had lunch and heard about hope and the importance of prayer.

Besides your donation, making the time to attend the event is greatly appreciated.

Excess proceeds are going to the children in our community. Last year, we made donations to Foster Children, the social workers in the Highlands Schools, Youth for Christ and other children's programs. We hope to do the same this year.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Polatty, President of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Sebring